

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for scheduling manufacture of an item in a factory comprising:
obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a customer,
the customer order including a desired shipping schedule, the desired shipping
schedule corresponding to an expedited shipping method;
planning a time for manufacturing ~~an~~ the item so as to have the manufacture of the item complete during a desired shipping window;
determining the desired shipping window so as to allow the item to be shipped via a lower cost shipping method while arriving at a destination as if shipped via ~~an~~ the expedited shipping method; and,
scheduling manufacturing of the item based upon the determining.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the item is an information handling system.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the planning a time for manufacture includes determining a destination for shipping the item.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the planning a time for manufacture includes determining a size of the order.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the planning a time for manufacture includes determining a time of day that the planning is occurring.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the lower cost shipping method includes ground shipping.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the expedited shipping method

includes air shipping.

9.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A system for scheduling manufacture of an item in a factory comprising:

means for obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a customer, the customer order including a desired shipping schedule, the desired shipping schedule corresponding to an expedited shipping method;

means for planning a time for manufacturing ~~an~~ the item so as to have the manufacture of the item complete during a desired shipping window;

means for determining the desired shipping window so as to allow the item to be shipped via a lower cost shipping method while arriving at a destination as if shipped via ~~an~~ the expedited shipping method; and,

means for scheduling manufacturing of the item based upon the determining.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the item is an information handling system.

21. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the means for planning a time for manufacture includes means for determining a destination for shipping the item.

22. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the means for planning a time for manufacture includes means for determining a size of the order.

23. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the means for planning a time for manufacture includes means for determining a time of day that the planning is occurring.

24. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the means for planning a time for manufacture includes means for determining a time of day that the planning is occurring.

25. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the lower cost shipping method includes ground shipping.

26. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the expedited shipping method includes air shipping.

27.-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for scheduling manufacture of an item in a factory comprising:

an obtaining module, the obtaining module obtaining a customer order, the customer order including an item ordered by a customer, the customer order including a desired shipping schedule, the desired shipping schedule corresponding to an expedited shipping method;

a time planning module, the time planning module planning a time for manufacturing ~~an~~ the item so as to have the manufacture of the item complete during a desired shipping window;

a shipping window determining module, the determining the desired shipping window so as to allow the item to be shipped via a lower cost shipping method while arriving at a destination as if shipped via ~~an~~ the expedited shipping method; and,

a scheduling module, the scheduling module scheduling manufacturing of the item based upon the determining.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the item is an information handling system.

39. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the time planning module determines a destination for shipping the item.

40. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the time planning module

determines a size of the order.

41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the time planning module determines a time of day that the planning is occurring.

42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the time planning module determines a time of day that the planning is occurring.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the lower cost shipping method includes ground shipping.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 36 wherein the expedited shipping method includes air shipping.